



The Christian Courier

America's Longest Running Christian Newspaper

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January & February 2025



2025 Wisconsin Governor's Prayer Breakfast and National Day of Prayer will be Thursday, May 1st

Once again, the Annual Wisconsin Governor's Prayer Breakfast will be held on the National Day of Prayer. The event will be held at the Wisconsin Club, 900 W. Wisconsin Avenue from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. The breakfast is open to the public and all are encouraged



to obtain tickets early as the event is always sold out.

We are pleased to announce our special guest speaker this year will be DR. REV. ELIE HASBANI. A native of Beirut, Lebanon and former IDF soldier battling for Israel who fought Hamas and Hezbollah, Eli's life changed forever when he stepped on a landmine. Eli thought he was going to die that day. Eli wrote his life story in a book entitled The Good Soldier. Elie

came off the battlefield that day with a new purpose for living and a love for the very people he had been fighting. Author of a second book entitled Crossover to the Cross, Elie travels internationally sharing his story of forgiveness, teaching and equipping leaders worldwide to how to truly love their neighbor. Come hear how God used many life-changing events in Eli's life. Gather your office, neighbors, friends and family and order a table of 10 tickets.



Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers

Other program participants confirmed to date include the following Bill Marris, Richard "Dick" Pieper, Brad Meeder, Don Krosnicki...

Further information can be found at www.WisconsinGovernorsPrayerBreakfast.com

Phone: 414-344-7300
Email: goodnews316@icloud.com



Dr. Rev. Elie Hasbani, Author of *The Good Soldier*
Photo by Jack Roper

A Scientist For God. A Scientist For Man.

by Jack Roper, Freelance Writer

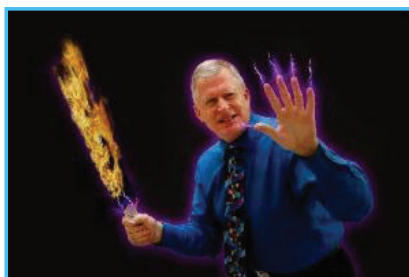
There are wonders in science that we seriously think about. The depth of this subject and dimensions of it is a wonderful challenge for exploration. I have a longtime friend, Dean Ortner, who is a scientist with The Wonders of Science in the city of Whittier, California. Dean has this gift of curiosity with an IQ of 151. IQ is short for the term "Intelligence Quotient". The average IQ level is between 90-109 according to the Stanford-Binet test. Mensa scoring standards for a person to enter this group has to be 132 or more. IQ has to do with a person's ability to understand the levels of rea-

soning. When God gave mankind knowledge, He gave us the ability of explore and reason the depth of a subject. It is like the deepness of an iceberg using reasoning powers to what we see and understand at various depth levels of knowledge. God's knowledge is endless and is beyond measure-ability because He is omniscient. Man's profundity uses the IQ tool to understand man's ability to figure out and interpret the questions before him or her.

Dean's parents were professors in rocket science, math, metallurgical engineering and remedial reading and Dean is the oldest of eight brothers. He loves new ideas and swells with challenges. At the age of nine, he developed an analog computer to give him a greater understanding of math. At the age of 11, he attended a university to study phys-

ics and chemistry and the following year he added aeronautical/electrical engineering and French after majoring in pre-med and bio-nucleonics (a form radiopharmaceutical for the treatment of oncological and cardiological diseases). He later joined the faculty as a research scientist at a mid-western university. The Lord opened up non-ending doors of opportunity. The elevator in a city building is symbolic to that of the human IQ. When the elevator slowly goes to the top floor, it is at the highest point of a building. When pride goes up it can only go so high before it falls like that of an elevator. A fast-falling elevator shall bring doom to those inside the dropping lift. It is also the heart of the Evil One, when Satan's pride filled his being, he was also brought down very fast like lightning to the ground level on Earth (Luke 10:18 & Job 1:7b). When pride goes up it must come down either on Earth for forgiveness or in Hell where it

Continued on page 3



Dr. Dean Ortner, The Million Volt Man

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Commentary

Bring Prayer Back to School

by Bob Conklin, Jr.



Remember this bumper sticker? For that matter, remember when cars had bumpers? We came across this simple witnessing tool at ProBuColls Bookstore recently and how timely this is. Bring prayer back to school...Oh! We could never do that!! Or, is it that we don't want to...yet. Any thinking person can see that our society is unraveling. Sadly, there is a percentage of people that want to see our society break down, especially here in America. But, don't most of the 8 billion people on the planet just want to wake up each day, enjoy their life and be left alone. America has been a leader in the ways in freedom, entrepreneurship and most of all order and faith in God and a beacon for countless people around the world who wish they had what we have.

At the time of this writing, our country is ablaze on the west coast, dangerously cold in the Midwest and drying out and rebuilding in the southeast. Man and his SUV had absolutely nothing to do with these weather events, so don't blame the young lady who hosted the Golden Globes. I give her credit for one thing she said, "God the Creator of the universe..." That statement alone was a breath of fresh air in an education environment that studies monkeys and apes as though they are our blood relatives and teaches the age of the planet being millions or billions of years. That she said, "God scored zero"

in their survey was no surprise and the laughs, though some were quite muted, were a sign of the times that surprised nobody.

God has everything to do with the weather. Matthew 5:45 says, "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust. We had a nasty freeze-up at the Clark House December 23, 2022. Minus nine degrees and 50 mile per hour winds out of the north caught us totally off-guard. One night is all it took and having so few guys living at 2424 W. Kilbourn really cost us. During Covid, we had every room there filled as guys were needing a place to go coming out of the Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility. Pray with us that we can get that big house licensed this year.

Knock out our water supply and fires burn unabated. Knock out our power supply and buildings freeze up...fast. Knock out our food supply and our people and animals starve. We are all in this together. Sadly, some of our fellow Americans have lost a great deal recently including loved ones. We are so sorry to see this. God is still good all the time. God still loves and cares for each and every one of us totally and completely. Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, it's on us to lead the way in prayer and witnessing to those who are hurting, the saved and the unsaved. Ray Comfort said it well in his recent YouTube program, "No one knows for sure if God is judging us, but it would sure make a big difference if it started raining in Los Angeles"...and the wind stood still. Only God can do things like that. Only we can seek His face in prayer no matter the cost. "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

At the beginning of this year I made a New Year's resolution to lose 10 pounds ... Only have 15 more to go...



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License plate of the month spotted at Grace Church Delafield men's breakfast: Hebrews 3:4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.

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News & More



GOD Made It Ridiculously Easy to Get Saved!

By Patrick "P.J." Glavey



PJ Glavey
Email: glaveypj@gmail.com

No matter where you stand theologically, any reasonable student of the Bible will agree that the epistles of Paul – Romans to Philemon – are the epistles written to non-Israelites who come to faith in CHRIST. And since we are all one in the Body of CHRIST – where there is no Jew or Gentile...Roman's to Philemon are the epistles to the Church. To the Body. The Believers. They're ours. All of the Bible is for us...but not all of the Bible is to us – as they say.

And do you know what Paul's Epistles teach? Over and over and over again – they announce the simplicity that we have in Christ. If anyone believes that GOD himself entered into HIS creation as a man, lived a life we couldn't lead, and shed perfect, innocent blood on our behalf – and they trust that sacrifice – then they are saved. Eternally. They have a reward – they have an inheritance – they have eternal

life – and they can have peace with their maker now, in this lifetime, and forever.

It's the pulpit "pastors," and religions of this world that make it difficult. That place burdens on the sheep that GOD never intended for HIS children. Don't be like them Christian. Extend to others the free gift and mercy and completeness that GOD has extended to you in JESUS CHRIST, and nothing else. No additions. No but's. No requirements. And no burdens.

And if you have theological questions that hinder you from wholly giving that kind of grace to others, email me, and let's talk about. Because I assure you, it's what the Scriptures teach, and there is an answer for any hang-up you're having believing that GOD really is that good and really does offer salvation, righteousness, holiness and reward to all that come to HIM in CHRIST – eternally – as a free gift – and to all.

GOD bless you.

ROMANS ROAD OF SCRIPTURE

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>1. Romans 3:10 As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one;</p> <p>2. Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.</p> | <p>3. Romans 5:8 But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.</p> <p>4. Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—</p> | <p>5. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.</p> <p>6. Romans 10:9-11 Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.</p> | <p>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."</p> <p>7. Romans 10:13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

A SCIENTIST FOR GOD FROM PAGE 1

will burn up as you go down for God takes the sin of pride very seriously.

Over Dean's humble and growing years of knowledge and necessary cognitive retention he joined a mid-western university as a research scientist with many opportunities to teaching doctors and other postdoctoral students that were heading to the astute Mayo Clinic various medical advanced surgical techniques, medical entomology, medical toxicology and instrumental analysis. The Lord gave Dean the IQ that he has in order to retain such a wide variety of different and complicated fields of interest. From there he had other amazing opportunities as a guest lecturer at Johns-Hopkins Medical School, Harvard, Princeton, Purdue, etc. He then in his academic career was a visiting professor under the Stanley Lectureship series.

He decided to pursue his second PhD. Doctorate in the wide field interest of Humanities. His rocket scientist parent encouraged Dean to get "educated" apart from being "trained". He decided to pursue two trips to Europe to study the Humanities which included to study and listen to lectures in Issac Newton's personal lab. Dean loved languages and the list included French, Spanish, German, written Chinese and even Braille. In a phone call, Dean shared with me about a fascinating Braille cell tool and how it is used for the Blind.

There was a void in Dean's heart that he was aware of. His soul found a source of relief and nourishment at a Billy Graham Crusade.

Here is where his soul met the Lord when Dean gave his heart over to Jesus Christ as his Savior in the Fall of 1969. From there he went on to study God's Word at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago and later was asked to join the Moody Institute of Science as a lecturer.

ceived the status as a Red Beret. Dean is also known as "The Million Volt Man" where he stands on a coil and the energy runs through him while holding a single 2x4 piece of wood and grabbed it with both hands with the wood on fire. I have seen him do this when I was in Montreal, Canada at the Olympics. He illustrated his talent on "Ripley's Believe It Or Not" which had the largest viewing audience in cable history. If you go to YouTube "Ripley's Believe It Or Not" you can see Dean and the "Wonders of Science" in action. He has spoken at Camp David, Olympics Games, World's Fair, many military academies etc.

When Dr. Ortner was at the Pentagon, he received a medallion. This service medal has only been presented to 32 individuals since President George Washington gave out the first one. Dean now, with all that he has done, including working on his 5th book, has been blessed. Jesus Christ in Heaven alone has opened up every door for him and Dean has passed through them in obedience. His public speaking to millions of people around the world has opened up the eyes and minds of people the value of science and its wonders. When Dean passes on into glory, the Lord will say to Dean "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord." Matt 25:21.

He can be contacted at www.wondersof-science.org or email him at deanortner@aol.com



Dean's academia is impressive over his years of adventure. Flying has been one of his loves. He built his own plane as a teenager. Most of his family are pilots. He has flown a F-18 Hornet fighter jet and other types. Dean was commissioned as a Lt. Col. with the 82nd US Army Airborne. He is qualified in weapons training and jump school and re-



News & More

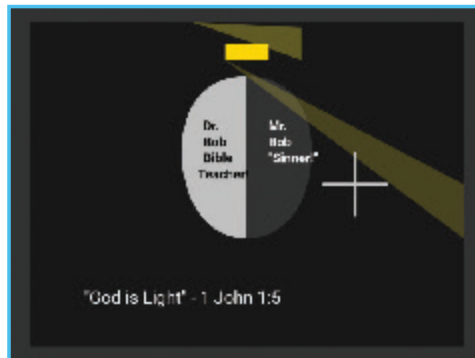


The Truth Exposed: When God's Light Reveals Our Hidden Self

By Bob Roman, Bible Teacher

"God is light." - 1 John 1:5

Picture this: a single beam of divine light cutting through the darkness of our souls, revealing two distinct faces we all wear - the public persona of the dedicated Bible teacher and the hidden reality of the struggling sinner. Just as a flashlight beam exposes everything in its path, God's penetrating truth illuminates every corner of our divided existence, revealing our "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" nature that we so carefully try to conceal.



When God's light shines upon us, it doesn't just reveal our "good side" - the face we show at church, in Bible study, or among fellow believers. Instead, it courageously exposes our shadow self - the parts we desperately try to keep hidden in darkness. Like a spiritual spotlight, it reveals the entirety of who we are: both the dedicated servant and the struggling sinner, both the teacher and the tempter, both the saint and the soul in need of grace.

Truth in the Hebrew understanding (emet) spans the entire alphabet, representing complete, all-encompassing truth. Unlike deception (sheqer) which represents only a fragment. This perfectly illustrates our struggle - trying to compartmentalize our lives between our public Christian face and our hidden struggles.

Scripture reminds us:

"God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all" - 1 John 1:5

"If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth" - 1 John 1:6

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from ALL unrighteousness" - 1 John 1:9

"The Lord's mercies are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness" - Lamentations 3:23

"Hope does not disappoint" - Romans 5:5

KEY INSIGHTS FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

Self-deception is a universal struggle - we all have our "compartments." As Jeremiah 17:9 tells us, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" First John 1:8 further reinforces this: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

God's light doesn't expose to condemn, but to cleanse and restore. John 3:17 assures us that "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." Additionally, Romans 8:1 declares, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Each morning offers new mercy and hope for change. As Lamentations 3:22-23 beautifully states, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Second Corinthians 5:17 reminds us that "if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

PRACTICAL STEPS FORWARD

1. Invite God's light into your hidden struggles - name them specifically in prayer. Follow David's example: "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!" (Psalm 139:23-24)

2. Share your struggle with a trusted Christian friend or counselor. James 5:16 encourages us: "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power." Remember, "Two are better than one... For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10).

3. Start each morning with Lamentations 3:23 - God's mercies are new every morning. Let Psalm 118:24 be your daily reminder: "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."



Bob Roman

A PRAYER FOR AUTHENTICITY

"Heavenly Father, we come before You acknowledging our tendency to hide parts of ourselves - our struggles with addictions and sins. Your Word says You are light, and we invite Your light to shine into every hidden corner of our lives. Thank You that Your mercy is new every morning, and that hope in You never disappoints. Give us courage to live authentically, to confess our sins, and to walk in Your light. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Editor's note: The accompanying illustration depicts the dual nature we all struggle with - the public face of faith and the private battle with sin - illuminated by God's revealing light. This powerful visual reminder calls us to embrace His light of truth and grace.

For questions or further discussion: bob.roman.bibleteacher2023@gmail.com



Talented adults and children abound at Eagle's Nest Church in Brookfield on Western night



Eli and Ranger Kelly working hard to make the Clark House a better place for the guys



News & More



What Will 2025 and Beyond Require of Evangelical Leaders?

By Marlon De Blasio (christianpost.com)

The changing world of 2025 and beyond will arrive with unnerving challenges for Christians. Evangelical ministry cannot remain static amidst complicated cultural whirlwinds. So, what type of Evangelical leadership will be required in that context?

The Christian leadership of previous generations served its epochs well, but in today's world unprecedented fluidity will be essential. Even the Apostle Paul acknowledged fluid leadership for the challenges that faced his political and religious culture: "I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the Gospel!" (1 Cor. 9:22).

Believers are more educated today and their yearning for genuine Christian leadership is in high demand. Reports have indicated that Christian leaders are now trusted less, and that is a primary reason for declining church attendance. George Barna was recently quoted as suggesting "that pastors would be wise to examine their practices and reputations."

I believe there are five essential traits for effective evangelical leadership as we move into 2025 and beyond.

EGOISM NOT REQUIRED

Leadership roles command much respect in Evangelicalism. It's just the way it is. So there are ambitions for titles, chair positions, honorary designations, credentials, and many leaders can become susceptible to the inordinate supply of attention to the elevated status. Only those who are profoundly experienced in the grace of God can overcome the pitfalls of a "god complex." Sadly many leaders become intoxicated with the belief that they are the smartest guy in the room. This egoism is dangerous and will eventually wreak havoc in a ministry.

Many such leaders begin to flirt with gray areas as they dupe themselves into believing that God has favored and exempted them from rules that apply to everyone else. People are wising up to hypocrisy and this will lead to more confrontations with egoism. I would caution ministries to manage with the right spirit and by proper procedures make leadership more accountable. Imprius, ministries should become more cognizant of appointing and supporting leaders devoid of egoism.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

Throughout biblical and Church history, the great leaders possessed a remarkable discernment of their times. Moses, Joseph in Egypt, Joshua, the prophets, Daniel, Esther, John the Baptist, and the Apostle Paul, all demonstrated keen discernment of their cultural contexts both inside and outside of their faith communities. Subsequent great



leaders did too, Martin Luther, John Wesley, William Wilberforce, C.S. Lewis and there is not enough space here to mention many others who discerned their times. Their words and actions weighed heavily and impacted the issues of the day. Sophisticated and complex challenges are coming, and Evangelicalism will require wise and discerning leaders who will be competent in unpacking biblical resolutions.

PERSONAL CONVICTION OF GOD'S GRACE

The power of Christian faith rests solely on the basis of personally knowing the grace of God. There will be no way around this. None. Jesus was clear: "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again'" (John 3:7). Evangelicalism can only survive because of the Spirit's power to regenerate by God's grace. Then leaders and believers will possess an unmistakable experience that, "The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God" (Rom. 8:16).

Only this foundational faith will withstand the calamities of intellectual and cultural onslaughts that portend. Moral teachings of a progressive fashion will implode tomorrow's Evangelicalism because they will offer "the appearance of godliness" (2 Tim. 3:5) that people can learn in any self-help book. Influential evangelical leaders will be men and women who know their God and are personally assured that only His grace is the antidote to sin.

KEEN KNOWLEDGE OF HUMAN BEINGS

Humankind is flawed. It is self-centered and naturally rebellious against its Maker. The ways of the world are now characterized by people craving to be worshipped. Social media are filled with content makers who aspire to godlike status. People are finding the message of Evangelicalism distasteful in comparison with aggrandizing oneself. We are moving into a world where more and more people desire the deification of their personal brand. Evangelical leadership will be required to comprehend this self-centered psyche and graciously communicate the wonderful joys of submission

to Christ. Appeals to the Christian faith will require insightful teachings on how to lead a happy Christian life and be productive in a world where temptations to selfishness are abounding.

COURAGE

The Bible says everywhere, "fear not." Every generation has had to decipher how to stand strong in proclaiming the ageless message of God's efficacious grace. Courage is a trait that distinguished all of the Christian leaders who made history. C. S. Lewis once said, "Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point." In a world where the relevancy of the Christian faith is increasingly tested, future Evangelical leaders will require a unique confidence in maintaining that God's grace remains legitimately relevant. Moreover, Evangelicalism will require leaders who can intelligently proclaim that "I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced" (2 Tim. 1:12). Fear is emotionally crippling and will cause impediment to the effective evangelical leadership required for a changing culture that continually intimidates believers to be silent.

The writing is on the wall: cultural thought is becoming increasingly antipathetic to the Christian faith and employing sophisticated measures to silence the message of repentance and grace. As Solomon once observed, "See, this alone I found, that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes" (Eccl. 7:29). Already, parts of the Western world are by law prohibiting the use of certain Scriptures. How far will these restrictions and scheming go to halt Evangelical thought?

Regardless, the Christian faith will never be silenced. It will, however, require Evangelical leaders who are accountable, who can engage competently with cultural thought, prioritize a personal relationship with Christ, and demonstrate the courage and wisdom to communicate His grace to humankind. These traits will become indispensable for dynamic evangelical leadership.



News & More



Sound Doctrine in the Age of AI: A Biblical Perspective

By Bob Roman

As we enter 2025, designated as the Year of AI, the Bible's warnings about sound doctrine are more relevant than ever. Consider these prophetic New Testament passages:

2 Timothy 4:3-4 warns us: "For the time will come when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths."

1 Timothy 6:3-5 cautions against those who "teach a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Titus 1:9 emphasizes the importance of "holding firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it."

In response to these biblical warnings, I strongly recommend three essential practices for 2025:

1. Immerse yourself in God's Word daily
2. Maintain a consistent prayer life
3. Engage in real, physical fellowship with like-minded believers

I'm excited to share that I've discovered an invaluable resource: "Christian Doctrine: The Theology of Christianity" by James D. Quiggle. This comprehensive work uniquely includes Israelology alongside traditional systematic theology - crucial for understanding God's prophetic timeline in these last days of the church age.

As someone committed to teaching biblical truth online, I cannot stress enough how vital it is to ground ourselves in sound Biblical Dispensational Premillennial Pretribulation Rapture doctrine. This book offers the solid theological foundation we need in these unprecedented times.

When was the last time you attended a Bible Doctrine class? In this Year of AI, mastering God's Word isn't optional - it's essential.

BOOK INTRODUCTION:

"Christian Doctrine: The Theology of Christianity" by James D. Quiggle represents 50 years of dedicated Scripture study. Drawing from his extensive background (including service in the U.S. Air Force, advanced degrees in Religion and Theological Studies, and authorship

of over 75 biblical commentaries), Quiggle has created an accessible yet comprehensive guide for Sunday School and Bible study groups.

What sets this work apart is its inclusion of Israelology—a critical component often missing from systematic theology texts. This study of Israel's role in God's plan is essential for understanding biblical prophecy and current events.

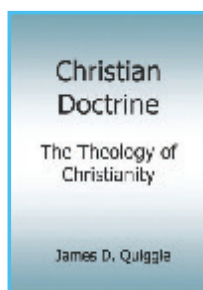
BOOK OUTLINE:

1. Introduction
 - The necessity of systematic theology for every believer
2. The Ten Disciplines of Systematic Theology:
 - Bibliology (Study of the Bible)
 - Theology Proper (Study of God)
 - Christology (Study of Christ)
 - Pneumatology (Study of the Holy Spirit)
 - Anthropology (Study of Humanity)
 - Hamartiology (Study of Sin)
 - Soteriology (Study of Salvation)
 - Ecclesiology (Study of the Church)
 - Angelology (Study of Angels)
 - Eschatology (Study of End Times)
3. Additional Critical Topics:
 - Hermeneutics: Biblical interpretation principles
 - Dispensationalism: Understanding God's distinct plans for different eras
 - Israelology: The crucial interrelationship between Church, Israel, and Dispensationalism
 - Theological Triage: Maintaining unity while respecting diversity
 - Heresies: Identifying and countering false teachings
4. Six Appendices: Detailed explanations of key theological concepts

Available on Amazon in both Kindle and paperback formats (\$25.99), this 535-page resource is an essential tool for believers seeking to stand firm in biblical truth during these challenging times.

In the Year of AI (2025), when technological advancement threatens to reshape our understanding of reality, we need more than ever to be grounded in sound biblical doctrine. This book provides the theological foundation necessary for discerning truth from deception in these last days of the church age.

Will you join me in prioritizing sound doctrine and biblical truth in 2025? I'm ordering my copy today!



At 99 years and counting, Howard Honett still hosting CBMC Northshore at the Hamilton House with Erv Martens, Bob and Joe



News & More



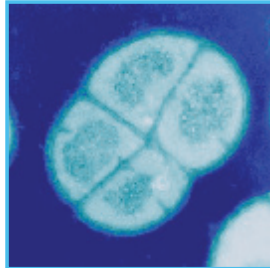
You Never Knew They Were There!

by Jack Roper, Registered Nurse

BACTERIA GERMS PATHOGENS FUNGUS MICROBES VIRUSES

In the year 1956, a piece of corn beef was scientifically tested. What they found was a microbe so small that the human eye could not see it. It was a DEINOCOCCUS RADIODURANS bug.

What was interesting about this super tiny creature was its ability to resist scientifically the following environmental conditions. It could tolerate extreme coldness, resist radiation 3,000 times more than a human could, reject high doses of ultraviolet radiations, extreme dehydration, resist acid on its body and tolerate a vacuum in outer space. What can a virus or a bacteria also do. It can wipe out millions of people. Past examples are Typhus epidemic during World War I in Russia. Around 2-3 million people died. Typhus was caused by the Ricketts bacterial which was transmitted to human by lice, fleas mites ticks, rodents, cattle, etc. Other examples of killer microbes was the Abyssinia pestis bacterium which was known as the Black Plague. In Europe 50 million died within days of the first symptoms. Let us hop over now to the virus kingdom. The polio virus killed over 500 thousand every year until the vaccine was discovered. The secret to the microbe is its ability to replicate fast within the human host. So how do we determine what is what in this world of "small talk" scientists. The key is advancement in medicine and technology. The key instrument is discovering these little rascals is with the microscope. I have a macro-scope and a microscope but far from professional.



To learn more about this world of the unseen, I obtained The Hidden Power of Microbes, a wonderful series of knowledgeable scientific materials written by Melissa Booth, PhD. She is a scientist that trains other scientists. Dr Booth received her PhD in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics from Oklahoma State University. She is an expert in her field and is one of a kind in dealing with these infectious microbes who have probably been looking at her while she is looking at them in her 25 years of exploration with her microscope. These

covert and hidden creatures are on our body and in our bodies. The good guys are called "Normal Flora" that reside on human tissue and in human tissue and biofluids. There is a war going on between the good, the bad and the ugly and ugly they are. According to Dr Booth, your body is carrying roughly 38 trillion microbial cells plus 380 trillion viruses, most of which are either beneficial or benign. I trust that her figures are correct because she has the scientific equipment for analysis and we no-scientific folks don't. The E. coli is one of the fastest reproducers, so when you take in this nasty food loving bug, it is not long before you have these episodes of acute gastritis.



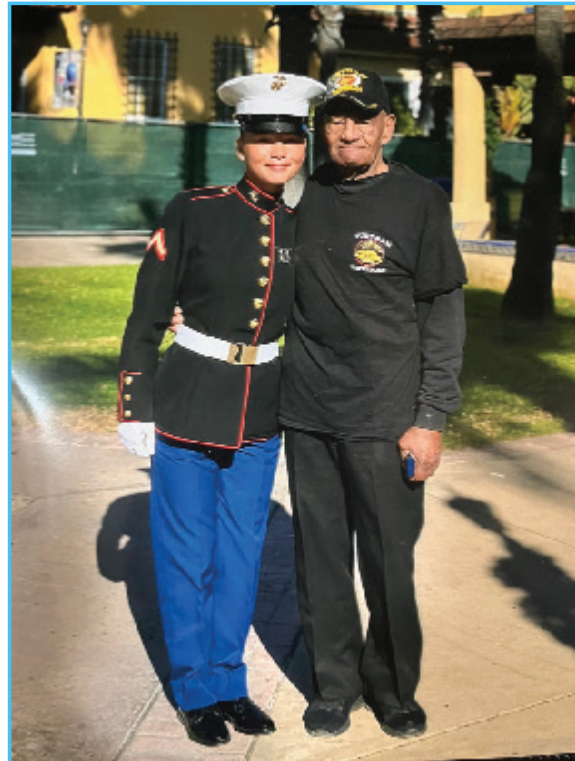
Jack Roper is a professional photographer, longtime RN and former Navy Corpsman.

So I think we should peek around the school corner and see how these microbials advance inside of us. Well the good guys (T-Cells, White blood cells, Phagocytes, Lymph nodes) are always on the lookout for the pathogen, the bad dudes. Here are some insights for you about bacterial communications with each other. It in scientific terms is called "Quorum sensing" According to the National Institutes of Health(<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>) New research shows that, in fact, bacteria have elaborate chemical signaling system that enable them to communicate within and between species Quorum sensing is a process in which bacteria monitor their cell-population density by measuring the concentration of small secreted signal molecules called autoinducers".

So now you know that bacteria can communicate with each other. So do plants with others plants. So do humans. Humans use brains, but bacteria and virus use chemical communications. Now we can't leave out God. He wants to communicate with us also. He uses a Book. It is called The Word of God, the Bible, the Scriptures, the Holy Book. God gave us a soul and spirit, which microbes do not have.



Dr. Basil Jackson, John Duckhorn, John DiFrances, Pastor Tim Winter, Randy Melchert with two of his four kids, Jack Roper, Bob Conklin, Ralph Story, Joe Kurk and Pastor Bob Ona gather for fellowship



After her recent graduation in San Diego, Marine Corps PFC Maya Longoria with her dad Lucky, US Army 1968-1971



Books & More

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RiverSide Christian Church, Powhatan Campus
12228 Rt. 100, Powhatan, VA

Wednesday Evenings: 6:30-8:00 PM
St. Luke's Male Book
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Contact Karen@marcofreespirit.com with any questions.

margo fieseler
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MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

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Dink Corbin - 414-949-1570

7:30am Milwaukee Men's Fellowship
Tuesdays - 10201 W. Bradley Rd. Milwaukee
Derek Johnson - 414-388-8251

7am DEMO Bible Study
Thursdays - Move's Restaurant, 4200 E. 70th St. Milwaukee
Bob Pardi - 292-365-3209

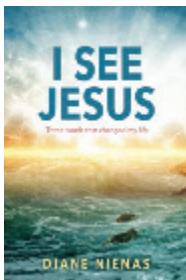
8am DEMO Bible Study
Fridays - Harbor House, W78 N420 N. Waubesa Rd., Cedarburg
Howard Fennell - 282-421-8384

7:30 AM Saturday Men's Bible Study
Lutheran United Church, 4440 Algona Rd., Uniontown, WI
Pastor Wade Johnson - 920-450-0300

8am Faithwalkers
Saturdays - Good News North Shore Church
8500 W. Brown Deer Rd. Milwaukee
Stan Lind - 414-807-9389

Christian Book Reviews

I See Jesus, Three Words That Changed My Life
by Diane Nienas



Diane and her husband, Tony, were given news that every parent dreads. Their son, Leo would not likely see his third birthday. In the midst of darkness that hovered

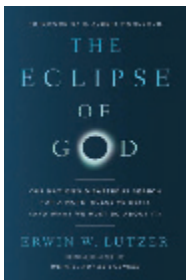
over the past, Diane found herself faced with an experience that could have broken her. Yet, her faith grew stronger, due in large part to Leo's influence. At age three,

months after losing his ability to speak, Leo confidently stated to Diane, "I see Jesus."

This extraordinary story will take you on a journey of transformation from suffering to surrender and ultimately redemption as Diane's gripping memoir

allows you to see Jesus, too. **FEW International Publications, a division of The Fellowship of Extraordinary Women \$24.95**

The Eclipse of God by Erwin W. Lutzer



In *The Eclipse of God*, bestselling author Erwin Lutzer exposes our nation's disastrous efforts to redefine God in its own image. The resulting damage has been so great that confusion about God has even crept into the church. This bold exposition will help you

*understand society's attempts to make God inclusive and sin-friendly by exploring the intellectual roots of the present darkness.

*renew your faith in God by replacing worldly misperceptions of Him with the biblical truths about His unchanging character

*resist cultural conformity by counting the cost of faith as you shine the gospel's light with accuracy and grace

Harvest House Publishers \$18.99

Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos by John MacArthur & Nathan Busenitz, General Editors



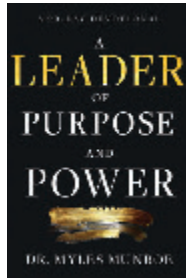
In an age of moral and spiritual decline, you will inevitably face pressure to view truth as something subjective, shifting and ultimately unknowable. Yet the Word

of God stands in bold contrast against this post-modern sentiment. The absolute truth of Scripture is timeless, extending even to today's most heated controversies.

No matter what society teaches, God's Word cuts through the haze of confusion with the light of truth. *Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos* encourages you to ground your convictions

in Christ and His all-sufficient word. **Harvest House Publishers \$18.99**

A Leader of Purpose and Power (A 90-day Devotional)
by Dr. Myles Munroe



Although we all have leadership abilities, we often do not have the understanding, courage, or will to cultivate them. That is why trapped within every follower is a hidden leader.

True leadership goes far beyond the mechanics that many leadership programs promote. It has more to do with discovering a sense of meaning and significance for your life

and of adopting a natural leadership style in the arena of your gifting. Then, you can develop the spirit of leadership, which includes the attitudes or qualities of purpose,

passion, initiative, priorities, goal-setting, teamwork, innovation, accountability, persistence, self-discipline, self-cultivation, and mentorship of your successors. **Whitaker House \$15.99**

Books reviewed here are available at ProBuColls Books and Gifts at 98th & Greenfield!



As we pass again from one year to the next, it's a time to be grateful for what has been and excited for what God has in store for us.

It's also a time for new resolutions—when we make a decision to do something differently. As I thought more about this, I came to think more deeply about the meaning of the word. To resolve means to settle or find a solution; to decide firmly on a course of action—the firm determination to do something.

As I read these definitions, the Lord spoke: This is a year to find our resolve again.

We thank God for everything He has done in and through CBN across the years, but we know that the mandate upon us is still ongoing. The vision that was set many years ago through Dr. Pat Robertson—to broadcast to the world the risen, reigning, and returning Lord—is too big for us to do alone.

That's why we need you!

As we begin 2025, will you help us to start strong, resolving in your heart and stepping for-

ward with firm determination to become a partner with CBN as we take the Good News of Jesus to the nations?

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Terry Meeuwse
Co-host, The 700 Club



News & More



5 Reasons Why 2025 Will Be a Pivotal Year for Many Churches

By Thom S. Rainer

Dad told me they were tornado clouds.

I was a kid in the 1960s when he uttered those words. I was too young to realize that we might be facing a potential threat. The technology that could confirm his prediction did not exist. I have vague memories of the clouds having a different tint than typical clouds, but nothing else pointed toward the possibility that a tornado was on the way.

Dad was right. The clouds produced more than one tornado. We were fortunate that the tornadoes did not get too close to my hometown. But I will not forget his warning that a major storm was on the way.

STORM CLOUDS OR NEW OPPORTUNITIES?

There seems to be a convergence of issues that could have a profound effect on churches in 2025. Frankly, I could name at least a dozen issues, but these five seem to be the most likely. Their magnitude could be significant as well.

As I will note, these developments are not necessarily storm clouds. On the contrary, there are some potential God-given opportunities for wise church leaders to embrace.

1. Greater receptivity to the Gospel by Gen Z.

Those young adults and teenagers born between 1997 and 2012 comprise the group commonly known as Gen Z. Our research at Church Answers, as well as work done by Ryan Burge and others, at least implies that Gen Z is more receptive to the Gospel. I cannot overstate how great this opportunity is. Over a year ago, we introduced The Hope Initiative to help churches move from being inwardly focused to being outwardly focused. Over 1,500 congregations thus far embraced the 30-day challenge. Many of the



churches reached young adults and older teens for the first time in years. The words of Jesus in Matthew 9:37-38 are still powerfully relevant today: "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. He said to his disciples, 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields'" (NLT).

2. Approximately 15,000 churches in America will no longer be able to pay a full-time pastor.

Of the 375,000 congregations in the U. S., we estimate that four percent of them will no longer have the funds to compensate a full-time pastor. This shift is enormous, and it might be more significant. Since over one-half of churches today do not have the budget to pay full-time pastors, we can easily see the part-time pastor model becoming the dominant model.

3. The term "bivocational pastor" begins to disappear.

That term needs to go away because it is no longer relevant. "Bi" means "two," and many part-time pastors have more than two jobs. The more accurate term is "co-vocational," which is a broad term with many possible meanings. For example, I am

friends with a person who serves as a pastor of two congregations while holding down a full-time job in the business world. He is actually closer to a modern-day manifestation of the circuit rider pastor who rode on horseback to serve different churches. Churches should prepare for this transition to the part-time pastor model. It is already the model in a majority of churches. It will soon become the dominant model.

4. The median time a church will have between pastors will be longer than 18 months.

Indeed, a growing number of churches will do without a pastor for two years or more. The role of the interim pastor will be even more critical in 2025. And frankly, denominations and networks must be prepared to resource co-vocational churches, circuit-rider churches, and interim churches to be relevant to the congregations they serve. The day of churches with a full-time pastor serving in traditional-model churches is going away soon.

5. About 15,000 churches will close.

Many of these churches held on tenaciously, but the number of congregations facing imminent closure has grown. For the first time in modern church history, 15,000 of the churches will cease to exist in a period of one year. Notice that we are projecting that 15,000 churches will close and that 15,000 will move from full-time pastors to part-time pastors. Those 30,000 churches represent about one out of twelve existing churches. The change is dramatic.

Though the challenges are significant, I remain an obnoxious optimist about the future of congregations in America. Let me hear your perspective in the comments below. What do you think about the five issues I noted? What would you add to the list of significant changes?



Two future entrepreneurs selling lemonade at the Faith Market said, "We take cash or Cash App." Funny!

SIGN OF THE MONTH



Thanking God on a recent Saturday morning for the DOT's pro-life encouraging message



News & More



Prepared for Fire

By Tony Perkins, Family Research Council

Tragedy has struck our nation again with the devastating fires in California. Major news outlets call the Southern California landscape “apocalyptic.” That same word described the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, which battered the East Coast three months ago.

It’s unfortunate that “apocalyptic” is being used more often to describe disasters — whether natural or man-made. Over the past 20 years, beginning with Hurricane Katrina, the United States has seen its 10 most costly natural disasters. Hurricane Helene could top them all at an estimated \$200–\$250 billion in damages. The fires currently ravaging California might add to this grim record, with total costs yet unknown. That doesn’t count the irreplaceable loss of human life.

Some attribute the surge in disasters to climate change, while others point to policy missteps, inadequate infrastructure, or a decline in community preparedness. Regardless of the cause, the fact remains that extreme weather events seem more frequent and more devastating. The question then becomes how we respond — and whether we will be prepared when the next crisis inevitably arrives.

Amidst the chaos, unity often shines through, reminding us that hope endures even in the darkest scenarios. Faith-based groups, first responders, and volunteers play key roles in relief efforts.



Much of the crisis in Los Angeles stems from poor policy decisions, including environmental regulations that diverted 95% of crucial rainwater to the ocean instead of reservoirs. Some have also questioned whether DEI hiring policies contributed to inadequate preparedness and response. When truth is rejected, justice suffers, and the consequences, though not always immediate, can be devastating.



Tony Perkins, Family Research Council

Jesus actually warned of days like these. When His disciples asked about the signs of the end times in Luke 21, He said, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences... and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.” He

then cautioned that believers would face persecution and be brought before leaders

for His name’s sake, calling it an opportunity to bear witness.

So how do we prepare for these unsettling times? Jesus offers a clear answer later in Luke 21, verse 36: “But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things... and to stand before the Son of Man.”

By escaping, He does not mean running away, but standing firm, with confidence and compassion because you’re watching and praying, not hiding and complaining.

Hard times can also become times of opportunity. When we remain alert and prayerful, we can respond in faith and compassion instead of fear. For those who are prepared, adversity can forge strength and testimony. Instead of giving in to panic, we are to rely on prayer, leaning on the eternal God, creator and sustainer of all things.

Tony Perkins is president of Family Research Council and executive editor of The Washington Stand

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News & More



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BETWEEN RELIGION AND DEMOCRACY

Excerpt from Franklin D. Roosevelt's
State of the Union to Congress in 1939

Storms from abroad directly challenge three institutions indispensable to Americans, now as always. The first is religion. It is the source of the other two—democracy and international good faith.

Religion, by teaching man his relationship to God, gives the individual a sense of his own dignity and teaches him to respect himself by respecting his neighbors.

Democracy, the practice of self-government, is a covenant among free men to respect the rights and liberties of their fellows.

International good faith, a sister of democracy, springs from the will of civilized nations of men to respect the rights and liberties of other nations of men.

In a modern civilization, all three—religion, democracy, and international good faith—complement and support each other.



Where freedom of religion has been attacked, the attack has come from sources opposed to democracy. Where democracy has been overthrown, the spirit of free worship has disappeared. And where religion and democracy has vanished, good faith and reason in international affairs have given way to strident ambition and brute force. An ordering of society which relegates religion, democracy, and good faith among nations to the background can find no place within it for the ideals of the Prince of Peace.

The United States rejects such an ordering and retains its ancient faith.

There comes a time in the affairs of men when they must prepare to defend, not their homes alone, but the tenets of faith and humanity on which their churches, their governments, and their very civilization are founded. The defense of religion, of democracy, and of good faith among nations is all the same fight. To save one, we must now make up our minds to save all.

From *If My People, A Prayer Guide for Our Nation*
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In the Kitchen With Diane

Diane Fechter, Author



SAUSAGE CORN CHOWDER

Enjoy this hearty chowder with a loaf of crusty bread on a cold day.

- 1/2 pound pork sausage
- 1/4 c. chopped onion
- 1/4 c. chopped celery
- 4 c. water
- 5-6 red potatoes, unpeeled, cut into 1/2" cubes
- 3 tsp. Better than Bouillon* chicken flavor or 3 bouillon cubes
- 1 c. frozen corn
- 1 can (15 oz.) cream-style corn
- 3 Tbsp. butter
- 1/4 c. flour
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 1/2 c. milk

In a large saucepan, cook sausage, onion and celery over medium heat; drain.

Stir in the water potatoes and bouillon. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered for 20 minutes. Add corn; simmer 10 minutes longer or until potatoes are tender.

Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, melt butter; stir in flour and pepper until smooth. Gradually stir in milk. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1 minute. Stir into the sausage mixture. Serves 4

*Look for "Better than Bouillon" in the soup aisle of the grocery store. It has a better flavor and fewer chemicals than regular bouillon cubes.

For more recipes and tips see www.recipesforafulfilledlife.blogspot.com



In contrast to ethical relativism, Christianity sets forth a system of absolute moral values and affirms that God has placed within the very structure of this universe certain moral principles that are fixed and immutable.
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.



News & More



MY COGNITIVE DISSONANCE, MY FACEBOOK POSTS, ANDREW MURRAY'S BOOK: ABIDING IN CHRIST AND ME, THE BIBLE TEACHER ON "FAKEBOOK!"

Dear friends and followers,

I want to address a challenging topic that affects many of us as Christians navigating the world of social media. Let's explore how our online presence can sometimes create a disconnect with our true spiritual journey.

1. Cognitive Dissonance and the Christian Mind:

Cognitive dissonance occurs when our beliefs and actions don't align, causing mental discomfort. As Christians, we may experience this when our Facebook posts portray a perfect spiritual life while we privately struggle with sin and doubt. The apostle Paul described a similar internal conflict: "For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind" (Romans 7:22-23, KJV).

2. Double-Mindedness and Abiding in Christ:

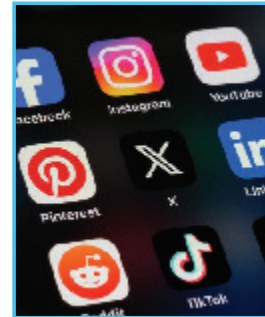
James warns us, "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways" (James 1:8, KJV). This double-mindedness can manifest as cognitive dissonance when we claim to be abiding in Christ on Facebook, yet our private lives tell a different story. True abiding requires consistency between our public proclamations and private actions, as Jesus taught: "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me" (John 15:4, KJV).

3. Andrew Murray's Timeless Wisdom:

Andrew Murray's book "Abiding in Christ," though written in 1895, offers profound insights for our modern struggle with cognitive dissonance. Murray emphasizes the importance of constant dependence on Christ, rather than presenting a façade of self-sufficiency. He writes, "It is as we abide daily, deeply in Jesus the Crucified One, that we shall taste the sweetness of His love, the power of His life, the

completeness of His salvation." This reminds us to be authentic about our need for Christ, even on platforms like Facebook.

As we navigate the temptations of "Fakebook," let's strive for authenticity, acknowledging our struggles while highlighting our dependence on Christ. May our online presence reflect the reality of our journey in abiding in Him.



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. How can we use Facebook to authentically share our journey of abiding in Christ, including our struggles?
2. In what ways have you experienced cognitive dissonance between your social media presence and your private spiritual life?
3. How can we support and encourage one another to be genuine in our online Christian witness?

Summary by Bob Roman, Bible Teacher

Assisted by Anthropic Claude

bob.roman.bibleteacher2023@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Broman2021>

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/romanbob

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A.I. Assistants: Anthropic Claude and/or Copilot.



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Romans 10:13

Pastor David Fann Jr.

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Email: davidfann1956@gmail.com
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John 3:16

Jesus Christ is Lord

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For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.



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With great joy and hope, the Midwest Bible College Board of Directors is proud to introduce Dr. Nicole Bowen Purpura as the new President of our college. Dr. Bowen Purpura has long served in both the classroom and on the board. Her experience and wisdom make her the ideal candidate to steward Dr. Bowen's work as we enter a new chapter at Midwest Bible College.

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Steve and Charlene Rose delivering gift bags for the guys at the Clark House

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:18-19



News & More



The Depth of Love

by Jack Roper, Photographer

Having browsed through many sources about LOVE, I found an anonymous source that hit the mark when love is missing. "The most lonely place in the world is in the human heart when love is absent". Having experienced moral love, it can replace immoral love which is lust. With experienced immoral love, it has its ways to lead a person into corrupt love. The receptor to acceptable love knows when real love reaches their heart. The heart is at peace and the peace becomes deeper as the love becomes immeasurable. Loving oneself ultimately leads to long term loneliness and loneliness can affect and weaken our freewill in making a wrong decision in life.

Love is a game changer. A game changer is defined as "An event, idea, or procedure that effects a significant shift in the current manner of doing or thinking about some thing". When genuine honest love is experienced, it has ways of changing an individual. That is why love is a game changer because when asking for forgiveness, which follows, love becomes visible in the heart of a sincere individual. Love removes diseases in the heart such as feeling lonesomeness, despair and fear. Perfect love casts out fear. (1 John 5:18) Love will then grow and continue to grow. The heart becomes more sensitive to other people and their trials in life. The observer will come to see that you have shown concern for the welfare of others. The Lord came to the point of a self surrender will when He came down to Earth so that we may have an outlet to have our sin nature be forgiven. Jesus Christ said to the father in Heaven " Nevertheless not my will but thine be done" (Luke 22:42). The Lord had to be sinless in order to forgive us.

Love stirs the heart to profound emotions. Wisdom has a way of having love become salient. One unknown author sums up wisdom "Knowledge is knowing

what to say Wisdom is knowing when to say it." There are technically 4 types of wisdom. They are earthly wisdom, intellectual wisdom, demonic wisdom, and wisdom from above. Wisdom from above, as found in the Book of Proverbs, supersedes the three other wisdoms because it is from God's Word. Being isolated from Godly love will change your life to being selfish because you shall rely on yourself instead of God-self. Love is an ingredient that is essential for life. It moves the invisible heart of the soul to become visible when gentle and Godly words are spoken. Love is essential to move us into understanding the "real purpose of life". There are rewards from above. They are called blessings for our Creator is the originator of love. The Father in Heaven allowed His Son to bear the naked Cross. Rewards are for those who will be allowed to enter Heaven. The Lord has important life changing words for when we ALL shall stand before Him. Those words are "I Never Knew You". These words will be the most sobering words that you shall ever hear if you are the one going to a place of eternal torment. Sin will never enter heaven. Then there are the Words from the Lord "Well Done, good and faithful servant. .. enter thou into the joy of the Lord". Heaven will be yours forever. The Lord is our source of blessings on Earth. The Lord is our ONLY forgiving source to be forgiven on Earth. The other religions have no true hope of forgiveness. The Love Jesus came down from Heaven for YOU. "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus" (Rom 6:23). The depth of love in Heaven is a

state of companionship and worship with Him. As the depth of the universe which has no ending, so is God's love for us who have believed in Jesus Christ. The way we lived on Earth affects our destiny in our future in eternity. Either Heaven or Hell. Both are literal.

"To love others makes us happy. To love our selves makes us lonely".



LOVE



"This will be a better world when the power of love replaces the love of power". (Source: Mac's Giant Book of Quotes and Quotes)



Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that. Martin Luther King

BILLY GRAHAM RAPID RESPONSE TEAM CHAPLAINS DEPLOY TO LOS ANGELES AREA WHERE MULTIPLE WILDFIRES HAVE BURNED MORE THAN 35,000 ACRES

The Billy Graham Rapid Response Team (BG-RRT) is deploying crisis-trained chaplains to the Los Angeles area where multiple wildfires have been raging – the largest being the Palisades Fire – amid Santa Ana winds. More than 35,000 acres have already burned with more than 180,000 people under evacuation orders across the region.

"People have lost everything. A lot of people are asking 'Why?', and that's a hard question to answer," said Franklin Graham, president and CEO of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Samaritan's Purse. "We want to reassure them of God's love – that He cares for them and that He hasn't turned His back on them."

Local crisis-trained chaplains began ministry in the area yesterday, Jan. 9, to those who

have been displaced. Once the fires are contained and emergency management allows access to the hardest-hit areas, ministry will continue as recovery efforts begin alongside Samaritan's Purse, the international Christian disaster relief organization also headed by Franklin Graham. Together the two min-



Franklin Graham

istries will address the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those who have been affected.

"The images coming out of California look like scenes out of a Hollywood movie – yet

they show the real-life horror that the people of the Los Angeles area are experiencing today. There's been so much devastation already and the fires continue to burn," said Josh Holland, international director of the BG-RRT. "The Billy Graham Rapid Response team crisis-trained chaplains have already begun ministering at local shelters, providing prayer and encouragement to those who have lost everything."

The BG-RRT is now ministering in three areas across the United States. In addition to Los Angeles, the ministry is meeting emotional and spiritual needs following Hurricane Helene in Valdosta, Georgia, and Tampa, Florida. The crisis-chaplaincy ministry was recently deployed in New Orleans, Louisiana, following the deadly New Year's attack on Bourbon Street.

In addition to these domestic efforts, BG-RRT chaplains are also offering hope and providing emotional comfort and spiritual care to families who have been forced to flee their homes in war-torn Ukraine.



News & More



Logistics/Supply Chain Management as Viable Careers for Home Schoolers

James R. Stock, Ph.D.

Home schooling has existed as a form of educating students for decades. Farming families often educated their children at home and provided on the job training for various farm-related tasks that had to be accomplished. We might consider this as a type of internship as students received some “book learning” and some “practical training” in farming.

While the landscape of home schooling has remained consistent over time, what has changed is that children are not being educated just in farming, but in a variety of 21st Century jobs skills. While it would be impossible to overview all the jobs that homeschoolers could enter after they complete their studies, one career stands out as being a great option for them. That career is “logistics/supply chain management.” Included in that broad career are transportation, warehousing, data analytics, inventory management, procurement, and many others. One study overviewing logistics/supply chain management jobs identified 22 high paying jobs that individuals could pursue (Indeed Editorial Team 2024). The list can serve as a starting point for identifying careers that students might be interested in pursuing. Most require a college degree and/or experience. However, as a real-world example, the author’s university offers a supply chain undergraduate major where starting salaries begin at about \$60,000 and are forecasted to increase (U.S. Supply Chain Professionals 2023). Students have taken specific logistics/supply chain management classes, had one or more paid internships, and had opportunities to network with a variety of professionals in the discipline. Placement rates in full-time jobs are 95+ percent.

It is difficult to imagine the size of the industry given that many people, while familiar with the terms logistics and supply chain management, do not understand the significance of the profession. In the Council of Supply Chain Management’s “State of Logistics Report” for 2024, US business logistics costs were \$2.3 trillion, which translated to 8.7% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (Kearney 2024). Certainly, this is “big business.”

In a report published by the State of Georgia several years ago, it was estimated that there would be a shortage of logistics graduates from colleges and universities in the US such that one million jobs would go unfilled. Although there have been economic, political and health headwinds, the forecast has been pretty accurate. While many colleges and universities have ramped up their logistics curriculums, they have not been able to keep up with the increasing demand for supply chain college graduates. Additionally, given what has occurred in last mile delivery, omnichannel marketing, the Internet and social media, and peoples’ general acceptance of doing much of their shopping from home, people still need goods and services, most of which relies on supply chains and logistics systems that are efficient and effective. Thus, the labor shortage is a long-term issue facing logistics/supply chain management professionals and has been going on for more than 20 years (Atkinson 2023). And this has immense significance to home schoolers.

Like public school graduates, home school students must be ready to contribute to their jobs on Day 1. This requires them to be prepared to be efficient, flexible, and resilient as they face both the simple and complex issues of logistics/supply chain management such as “strategically positioning inventory closer to buyers or across multiple fulfillment centers, adopting advanced inventory management systems, diversifying transportation methods, automating last-mile deliveries, and delivering multi-channel fulfillment (ZipRecruiter 2024).

“So Long Baby Boomers, Who Will Take Your Place?” A great question and part of the answer will come from future home school graduates. The US Census Bureau has estimated that sixty million Baby Boomers will exit the workforce by 2025 (Bowman 2010), but only forty mil-



James R. Stock, Professor of Supply Chain Management at Muma College of Business

lion will be there to replace them. And yes, while technology will be a key factor allowing workers to “do more with less,” it is not the complete answer or solution. Technologies are tools and they require people to use them efficiently and effectively. Both new and existing workers in logistics/supply chain management must possess the skills to implement technology. Thus, it is important for companies to foster talent within their organizations, as well as hire new people who will grow in their jobs as they gain experience. In 2020, Amazon announced their intention to retrain 100,000 employees to better adapt to automation and recent technologies (Johnson 2020). Similar efforts are underway at Walmart, Unilever, Starbucks, Microsoft, Boeing, and Nordstrom. This is where home schoolers can play a role. They can gain the necessary skills and experiences while studying the profession in their home school environment.

One of the great characteristics of this profession is the availability of resources available to home school teachers, including such things as articles and case studies available for free download from sites such as <https://supplychainbrain.com> and professional organization websites such as Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (www.cscmp.org), Warehousing Education & Research Council (www.werc.org), Materials Handling Institute (www.mhi.com), Association for Supply Chain Management (www.ascm.org), and many others (Bowman 2023). These organizations are extremely helpful in aiding home school educators, local, regional, and national contacts with setting up companies involved in logistics/supply chain management activities, and company tours and guest speakers, even for small home school groups. Each of the professional organizations is a general professional body of people working in the profession and includes people specializing in one or more logistics/supply chain management specialties. Home school educators should not hesitate to contact one or more of these professional associations. There are likely to be individuals and companies in or near your geographic location that can be helpful to you in planning and/or conducting classroom experiences about some aspect of the logistics/supply chain management profession.

Additionally, colleges, universities and junior colleges can be a major source of people and materials on the subject (Bowman 2020; Bowman 2022). Home school educators are strongly encouraged to reach out to these institutions for assistance on curriculum, guest speakers for classes, and visits to various company locations where students can see logistics/supply chain management being practiced. Some of the largest and well-known programs in the United States include Arizona State University, Auburn University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Michigan State University, Ohio State University, Stanford University, University of Arkansas, University of Tennessee, and others. There are many small and mid-size programs as well, such as Georgia Southern, North Carolina State University, and University of South Florida (Tampa).

In this brief article on logistics/supply chain management as careers for home schoolers, we have briefly examined job opportunities, overviewed what people can do when they enter this career, discussed prospects for starting jobs and careers, and what students can do now to prepare themselves for these future opportunities. As stated so eloquently by Chris Gaffney, “the future of supply chain work is now. If you’re not actively rethinking your approach to facilities, pay scales, work environments, automation and digitization, you’re losing ground to competitors for both business and talent... After all, a supply chain is only as good as the people you plug into it” (Gaffney 2023).



News & More



What a day!

Kevin Klandrud

December 10 started out as a normal Tuesday morning for me, but it didn't end that way. There is a topical Bible study held for any man that wishes to join at the Pallas restaurant, 1657 S 108th St, West Allis, every Tuesday morning at 7 AM.

After a 30 minute lesson by Jim, I finished eating breakfast and had tabletop discussions with the men around me.

I then headed over to ProBuColls at 9733 W Greenfield Ave to join up with Bob for a trip down to Aurora Illinois. ProBuColls is the Central Drop-off collection site for Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child (OCC). We arrived around noon and after dropping off supplies and wayward shoeboxes we signed into the building.

OCC is a large operation. Up to four tractor trailers are able to dock on the south side of the building. Trailers are unloaded and boxes are stacked. Those boxes are then opened, sorted, and repackaged into cartons. QR codes from each shoebox are entered and matched up with their carton. Those cartons are then sent on down the rollers to be packed onto shipping containers.

We were told that a shipping container had just finished being packaged and would we like to pray over it. Bob and I said sure, let's go. Imagine my surprise

when they started praying over this shipping container holding over 5000 shoeboxes along with Bibles and other evange-



Kevin Klandrud in Aurora, IL with cartons headed to Zambia

lism material for the country of Zambia. My backstory on the country of Zambia is we are close friends with retired missionaries that spent 33 years in Zambia. My wife said that her favorite vacation ever was the two weeks we spent with them doing Safari's and other journeys in that country

when we visited them. Our children grew up together when they were on home assignment and we kept constant contact with them for their last 20 years. I took a couple photos and sent them as I thought they would be excited. They were! She told her daughter and her two daughters in law about our trip.

Imagine my surprise when I received a text at 10 PM that night from their daughter with a screenshot of her shoebox, heading off to the country of her birth. She was super excited about it. I then sent her the photo of me with the shipping label, showing Zambia as the destination, and also that her shoebox probably was on that shipping container.

Coincidences? I think not. We planned to go down to visit OCC two weeks ago. Her daughter who lives in northern Wisconsin sent her shoebox through normal collection points at their local church, which were then placed into trailers and sent to Illinois via normal process. We showed up and are able to pray over the boxes being sent and were shocked that it's the country where her parents served and she grew up.

God is great. I truly believe God will use the opportunity to share these shoeboxes with the story of Jesus and the salvation He brings to those that receive Him.

"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give.

I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare." ~ C.S. Lewis

MINISTRIES DIRECTORY

MILWAUKEE (AREA 1)

Agape Harvest Fellowship
Ministries Church of Engle-
burg
4620 W North Avenue
Milwaukee 53208
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.449.2390

Apostolic Missionary Church
2686 S 12th Street
Milwaukee 53207
Call for times 414.645.7383

Berean Family Worship Cen-
ter, Inc.
ONE CHURCH IN TWO CITIES
3920 N. 51st Blvd
Milwaukee, WI 53216
Sunday 8 am
Wednesday 6:30 pm prayer, 7
pm service

Blessed Deliverance M.B.C.
2215 N. 23rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53205
414-344-9645
Sunday School 8:45 am
Worship 10 am
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm
Blessdeliverance@aol.com

Christian Faith Fellowship
Church East
724 S. Layton Blvd.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215
Sunday Worship Time: 10 a.m.
Sunday Night Ministry Training
6:00 p.m.
Wed Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
www.cffceast.org

Cornerstone Church Milwau-
kee
2223 E. Kenwood Blvd
Milwaukee, WI 53211
SundayWorship10am
414.395.7777 or
cornerstonemilwaukee.com

Divine Shepherd Lutheran
9741 W Beloit Rd
Milwaukee 53227
Sunday Worship 9AM
414.321.0730

Eastbrook Church
5385 N Green Bay Ave
Milwaukee 53209
Sunday Worship 8, 9:30, 11AM
414.228.5220

The Embassy Center
3725 N Sherman Blvd
Milwaukee 53216
Sunday Worship 8, 11AM
414.442.7411

Greater St. Lukes
2741 N. 27th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210
11 am Sunday Worship
9 am Sunday School
414-264-8040

Holy Cathedral COGIC
2677 N 40th Street
Milwaukee 53210
Sunday School 10AM
Sunday Worship 8:30, 11AM, 6:45PM
414.447.1966

Hope Lutheran Church
1115 N 35th Street
Milwaukee 53208
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Sunday Bible Study 9:15AM
414.342.0471

Kingdom of Heaven Christian
Min.
PO Box 18194
Milwaukee WI 53218
Sunday 10AM
414.393.1500

Lakeshore Church
1820 E. North Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-273-2850
Sunday 10:30 am
Friday- Bible Study 4 pm

Liberty COGIC
1811 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53206
Sunday School 8am
Sunday Worship 9am
Tuesday-Bible Study 6:30pm
414-264-0590

Life Church
5511 W Burtleigh St
Milwaukee 53210
Call for times 414.445.0755

New Beginnings Seed Faith
M.B.C.
138 W North Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53215
Pastor Annie Smith
Service 1:00 p.m.
Sunday School 2:15 pm

New Hope Missionary Baptist
Church
2433 West Roosevelt Drive;
Milwaukee, WI 53209
Sunday School: 8am
Sunday Worship: 9:30am
Wed. Bible Study: 6:30pm
414.871.0350
www.nhmbchurch.org/

Newport Missionary Baptist
Church
2237 N. 11th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53205
Sunday School: 9:30am
Service: 11am
Wed Nite Bible Study: 7pm
414-265-5881
newportmissionarybaptistchurch@gmail.com

Restoration International Min-
istry, Inc.
5017 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210
414-499-7961
Christian Educ Sunday 12:30 pm
Worship Service Sunday 1:30 pm

RISE MKE
9450 N 60th Street
Brown Deer 53223
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.354.6620

Souls Harbor Baptist Church
3800 S Howell Ave
Milwaukee 53207
Sunday School 10AM
Worship Services 11AM, 1PM
Thursday 7PM
414.342.1234 or SoulsHarborBaptist.org

Spiritual Healing & Restora-
tion Ministries
2925 W Lincoln Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215
Pastor Patsy McNeely
First Service 12/04/2016 @
3:00 P.M.

Tarry One Hour Ministry
Wauwatosa Lions Club
7336 St. James Street
3rd Monday of each month 6pm
A.B. Herron: 262.672.3685

Word is God Worship Center
3320 W Vliet St
Milwaukee 53208
Sunday Worship 11AM

Word of Grace Fellowship
4949 West Villard Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53218
Pastor Ernie Oby
Sunday Service: 10:30am
Wednesday Service: 6:30pm
414-464-9643
WOGFmke@gmail.com



Ministries



SOUTH SUBURBS (AREA 2)

Cornerstone Bible Church
11321 St. Martens Rd.
Franklin, WI 53132
Sunday Bible Study 9:30AM
Children's/Jr Church 10:30AM
414.232.3158 or
www.cbfranklinwi.com

Discovery Church
7311 S 13th Street
Oak Creek 53154
Worship Service 8, 9:30, 11AM
Sunday Evening 6PM

Harvest Community Church
6612 S Howell Ave
Oak Creek 53154
Worship Service 9AM, 10:45AM

Jubilee Christian Family Church
3639 W Ryan Road
Franklin 53132
Sunday Worship 10AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7PM
Mon-Fri AM 1:30-12:45PM
414.423.0700 or Jubilee-Christian.org

Milwaukee Victory Church
2110 W National Ave
Milwaukee 53204
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.645.7496

Life Restoration Church
2422 W National Ave
Milwaukee 53204
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.383.2280

St John's Lutheran Church
4850 S Lake Dr
Cudahy 53110
Call for times 414.481.0520

Southbrook Church
11010 W. St. Martin's Road
Franklin 53132
Sunday Worship 8:45, 10:30AM
414.427.1929

WEST SUBURBS (AREA 3)

Anchor Falls Church
N84W16971 Menomonee Ave
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
Sunday Worship 10:00AM
Wed. Youth Programs 7PM
414.464.9220

Banner Church
1500 S. West Lane
New Berlin 53146
Sundays 9am & 10:45am
weatherstonechurch.org

Beloit Road Baptist Church
8337 W Beloit Rd
West Allis 53219
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.395.0635
[www.BRRB\(Mike.org](http://www.BRRB(Mike.org)

Beth Messiah Congregation
N84W16971 Menomonee Ave
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
Saturday Worship 10AM
414.395.3043

Body of Christ Ministries
Kim Sorgent Ministries.org
Radio Ministry
Sundays 6-6:30 pm
Joy 1:30 AM and 98.7 FM
Prayerline: 414-587-9899

Brookfield Christian Reformed
14135 W Burleigh Rd
Brookfield 53005
Sunday Worship 9:30AM
262.784.1125

Calvary Bible Church
1459 S 81st Street
West Allis 53214
Call for times 414.778.2253

Elmbrook Church
777 S Barker Rd
Brookfield 53045
Worship Services
Sunday 9, 10:45AM
262.786.7051

Family Prayer & Worship Center
2370 S. 75th Street
West Allis, WI 53219
414.216.FPWC (3792)
Worship Sundays 10AM
Wednesday 7PM
www.fpwcenter.org

First Baptist Church-New Berlin
3800 S Casper Dr
New Berlin 53151
Sunday School 9:15AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7PM
262.782.7775 or
www.fbnewberlin.org

Honey Creek Church
3285 N. Bluemound Rd.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 475-1234
Sunday Worship - 10:30 am
www.honeycreekchurch.org

Life Church
3285 N Calhoun Road
Brookfield, WI 53005
262-783-2900
www.vifanline.org

New Beginnings Fellowship Intl.
8650 W National Ave
West Allis 53219
Sunday Prayer 8:45AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Sunday Praise 6PM
Wednesday 7PM
414.543.0603
NewBeginningsInternational.net

Faith Christian Church
4800 S. Calhoun Rd,
New Berlin
Worship Services
Sundays 11:15AM & 6:00PM
Wednesday 6:30PM
414-423-5241

Jesus Christ Is Lord Congregational Bible Church
2931 S Kinnickinnic Ave (Bay View)
Milwaukee, WI 53207
Sunday Worship 12:30PM
Wed. Bible Study: 7PM
414-210-6104
davidfann188@gmail.com

Layton Avenue Baptist Church
9600 W Layton Avenue
Greenfield, WI 53228
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 10:45am
414.425.1616
www.laytonavenuechurch.com

A Mighty River Ministries
5933 W National Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214
Sunday Prayer 4:30PM
Sunday Worship 5PM
Friday Bible Study 6:30PM
414-306-5672

New Song Church
2323 S 109th St.
West Allis, WI 53227
Sunday 10AM
414-546-1234

New Vintage Church
6626 W. Beloit Rd.
West Allis, WI 53219
Sunday 10AM
Wednesday 7PM
414.400.8320
www.newvintagewi.org

Northtown Church
A multi-ethnic church
7000 N 107th St
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Sunday Worship and Bible classes 10 am
414-353-5588
www.norhtownchurch.org

Pipeline to Jesus Church
13400 W Beloit Rd
New Berlin 53151
Sunday Worship 10AM
Tuesday 7PM
414.525.0000 PipelineToJesus.org

Poplar Creek Church
17770 W Cleveland Ave
New Berlin 53146
Sunday Worship 8:30 Traditional,
9:00 and 10:45 Contemporary
Wednesday 6:45PM
262.782.1777
PoplarCreekChurch.org

Poplar Creek Church - Wauwatosa
201 N 121st St,
Wauwatosa 53226
Sunday Worship 10:00AM
262-782-1777

Reformation Hope Church
915 Adelmann Ave., Lower Level
Brookfield, WI 53045
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Family Bible Hour Sunday 1:00PM
www.reformationhopechurchministries.com

RightWay Church Ministries
PO Box 242232
Milwaukee, WI 53225
4016 W Silver Spring Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53209
(In the Trinity Miracle Church building)
Sunday School 9am
Worship Service 10am
414-376-1651
rightwaychurchministries@yahoo.com

Risen Savior Bible Church
8556 W National Ave
West Allis 53227
Sunday Worship 9AM
414-617-0347 or
RisenSaviorBibleChurch.org

Showers of Blessing
8544 W National Ave STE #28
West Allis, WI 53227
Sunday School 10:00AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
414.502.7584

Wauwatosa Bible Chapel
2200 N 67th Street
Wauwatosa 53213
Sunday Lord's Supper 9AM
Family Bible Hour 10:30AM
Wednesday 7PM
414.771.1030 or
WauwatosaBibleChapel.org

REGIONAL (AREA 4)

Berean Family Worship Center, Inc.
ON CHURCH IN TWO CITIES
N112 W17655 Mequon Rd
Germantown, WI 53022
Sunday 11 am
Tuesday 6:30 pm prayer, 7 pm service

Blessed Hope BIC Church
4949 State Highway 38
Franksville, WI 53126
Sunday at 9:00 am
(262) 822-HOPE (4673)
<http://www.blessedhopebic.org>

Christian Life Church
309 Lakeview Drive
Belgium, WI 53004
Sundays 10:30 AM
Thursday Bible Study 6:30 PM
text: 936.488.0080
christianlifechurch.us

Cornerstone Church Lake Country
354 N. Oakwood Ave
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
Sunday Celebration 10am
Wed. Catalyst Youth Group 7pm
262-569-0001
cornerstonelakecount.com

Covenant Connection Fellowship Church
(Ingliside Hotel; Upstairs, Rm 1)
2810 Gulf Rd
Pewaukee, WI 53072
Worship: Sunday at 10am
262-650-9433

Delavan Christian Reformed Church
850 Oak Street
Sunday Worship 9:30AM 6PM
262.728.6801

Eagles Wings Nazarene Fellowship
609 Sandy Acre Drive
West Bend, WI 53090
262-334-7124
www.wbnaz.com
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Monday Ladies Bible Study 10:30 am
Wednesday Service 6:30 pm for adults and children

Faith Christian Fellowship
1200 Racine St.
Racine 53403
262.637-6220 or RacineFCF.org

Faithlife Victory International Church
Sunday worship 10:00am
(Temporarily meeting at the Kenosha Woman's Club)
6028 8th Avenue & 60th Street
(use west entrance) Kenosha WI 53143
www.faithlifevictory.org

Foundational Biblical Baptist Church
6224 22nd Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143
Sunday School 10am
Morning Service 11 am
Main Service 6pm
262-654-4665 www.fbckkenosha.org

Family Chapel
N25 W23050 Paul Road
Pewaukee 53072
Sunday Worship 10AM
FamilyChapel.org

Grace Bible Chapel
3917 59th Street
Kenosha 53144
Sunday Lord's Supper 9AM
Family Bible Hour & Sunday School 10:30AM
Wednesday Prayer 7PM
262.654.9631 GBC-Kenosha.org

Hillside Community Church
593 W30580 County Rd NN
Mukwonago 53149
Sunday Worship 9AM
Call for Bible Studies
262.363.8025 or HillsideMuk.org

Journey Church Burlington
740 Center St.
Burlington, WI 53105
262-767-3649
Sun. 9 & 10:45
Wed. 6:30

Journey Church Kenosha
1000 75th St
Kenosha, WI 53142
262-694-3300
Sat. 6pm
Sun. 9 & 10:45
Wed. 6:30

Lake Country Bible Church
N45W32481 Watertown Plank Rd
Nashotah, WI 53058
Sunday Bible Study 9AM
Worship 10:15AM
262-369-8777 LakeCountryBible.org

Northbrook Church
4014 Hwy 167 West
Richfield 53076
Saturday 4:30PM
Sunday Worship 8AM, 9:30AM, 11AM
262.628.3142

Oconomowoc Faith Bible Fellowship
25 McDowell Court
Oconomowoc 53066
Sunday Lord's Supper 10AM
Family Bible Hour 11AM
262.567.7234

Open Door Church
3420 County Road LL
Port Washington, WI 53074
Sat Worship Service 5:30pm
Sun Worship Services 8am & 10:45
Sun School/Adult Bible 9:30am
262-284-0711
www.ODBport.org

Orchard Hill Assembly of God
N9590 County Rd ES
Mukwonago WI 53149
Sunday Worship, 9:30am
Wednesday, Family Night & Youth Ministry, 6:30pm
(262) 363-5443
<http://www.orchardhillag.com>

Praise Fellowship Church
WI 195 S9912 Racine Avenue
Muskego, WI 53150
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service: 6:30 p.m.
www.praise-fellowship.org

Prayer House Assembly of God Church
1525 24th Avenue, Kenosha WI 53140
Sunday Worship: 10:00am. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm
262.595.0500
www.prayerhouseag.org

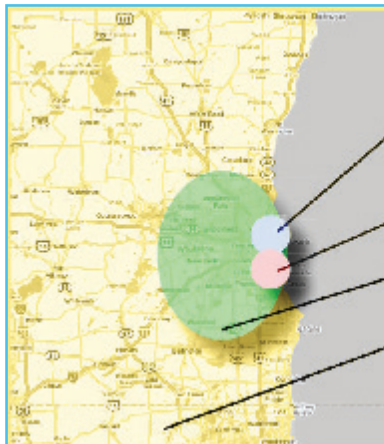
Summit Harvest Church
888 Thackerway Trail #209
Oconomowoc 53066
Sunday Worship 10AM
262.560.0765
SummitHarvestChurch.org

Terrace Shores Ev Free Church
W3278 County Road K
Markesan 53946
Sunday Worship 7:45, 9:15, 10:45AM
920.398.2734

Transformational Ministry
1123 Center St.
Racine, WI 53403
Sundays Worship: 2pm
224.656.1803

Watertown Community Church
106 E Madison St
Watertown 53094
Sunday Worship 10AM
Call for other meetings/studies
920.206.0599 or
WatertownCommunityChurch.org

Zion Christian Assembly
Zion Chapel 319 Cedar Street
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
Sunday Lord's Supper 9:30AM
Bible Ministry 11:00AM & 6:30PM
Wednesday 6:30PM
920.458.4137
920-889-7064
believers@ZionChristianAssembly.org



Color-coded Church Locations in Directory
Area 1 - Metropolitan Milwaukee
Area 2 - Southern Milwaukee County
Area 3 - Western Suburbs
Area 4 - Region Beyond Greater Milwaukee



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NO CHARGE for your church listing and get as many copies of the Christian Courier that your congregation needs!

The Journey of The Gift-Filled Shoeboxes

Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child has been collecting and distributing shoeboxes to children globally since 1993. Since the start over 221 million shoebox/gospel opportunities have been placed in the hands of children in over 170 countries.

When the shoeboxes are packed where does their journey continue? Great questions everyone and I am here to walk you through the process. A true god size logistical miracle. But of course, we work with our lord and savior, who is all about making all things work for his good, and even more the impossible.

We have packed our shoeboxes, and they are ready to go. the third week in November is called our National collections week. During this time shoeboxes are taken to our drop off locations that have been geographically selected and they are than cartonized in special Samaritans purse cartons. At the end of the week the drop off leaders that our connect volunteers (year around team members) take them to our central drop off location and there loaded into semitrailers. From this location they are then sent to the processing center.



Edward Graham, Chief Operating Officer, oversees the international and domestic operations of Samaritan's Purse visiting the Processing Center in Aurora, IL

There are 8 processing centers in the United States; Fullerton, California, Englewood, Colorado, Coppell, Texas, aurora, IL., Atlanta, ga. Boone, NC. Charlotte, NC, Baltimore, MA. They will divide the shoeboxes up as they come into processing centers located close to their regional areas. For example, the upper Midwest region includes (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, northern Illinois, north and south Dakota). They will come to the area of the aurora, Illinois processing center.

Starting the week of thanksgiving they begin to process the shoeboxes. This year the aurora center plans to process 800k. A huge number and a great deal of planning, connecting, and organizing. All of this with our regional team working hard behind the scenes. Samaritans' Purse counts on thousands of volunteers to come forward to process these shoeboxes. It truly takes an army of workers to get this all accomplished.

At the processing centers you can come and volunteer. There is an online registration to sign up. With arrival you will go through a formal process of checking bags and a brief orientation. You will be guided out to a line which is led by a team coach. The team coach will welcome you and give you brief instructions and divide the team up into 5 different roles. The maximum on a team is 10 but as few as 4 on a line. Aurora has 24 lines (similar to an assembly line) for processing shoeboxes. Preinspectors' job is to take the shoeboxes out of the cartons making sure there is a correct label and then checking for any monetary donations (opening cards etc) placing it in a specific secure cubicle. The next position is inspector. They will check all the shoeboxes contents to be sure there is nothing that is perishable, breakable, depicts violence, (military or political), anything mystical and removing all liquids. They also are responsible to make sure the shoebox is filled but always maintaining the integrity of the shoebox (never remove contents unless on the inappropriate item list).



God has the plan for every single shoebox for the right child. we know that the packer has this on their heart and in their prayers as they prepared their gift filled shoebox. The shoebox is then placed on the rack where the taper obtains them and tapes them securely. The scanner works alongside the cartonizer to be sure every box with a scan code is scanned and also scanned to the appropriate gender and age carton is placed into (labels are placed on the cartons). The completed cartons (we try to get 15 in them) are placed on conveyor belt and placed in shipping containers. (480 cartons per shipping container). Once the shipping container is filled it is prayed over by a team of volunteers with the chaplain. The shoeboxes then continue their journey to the country designated by Samaritans purse organization.



The atmosphere is filled with music and joy. We often have our regional team talk. They share videos and our chaplain will pray over the boxes. The positions are shared on the team, so you don't have to do just one the entire time. Your hands are the last to touch these shoeboxes before they reach the loving arms of a child. Precious and important are all of these moments.

This year gift filled shoeboxes will be distributed to areas: Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Jamaica, eSwatini, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Grenada, Belize, republic of Congo, Mauritius, sensitive country, Madagascar.

The country that we ship to that day will be on a whiteboard. It will have a running tally of the number of processed since the season started as well as the daily numbers. There will also be a prayer request from that country posted on the large projection screen.

We have a gift area to buy various Samaritans purse articles and when you leave you receive a free t-shirt with Samaritans purse logo.

Pray is priority in all that Samaritans purse does so as we continue the journey of these precious gift filled shoeboxes remember always to pray.

There are still opportunities to help at the processing center. BASBO (Build a Shoebox online) will start their process on Jan 22-Feb. Great opportunity to serve where we process over 315000 shoeboxes that specifically go to Unreached or Sensitive countries.

These are wonderful moments to share with family and friends and groups for a short-term mission trip. Consider this opportunity for next year.

See samaritanspurse.org for more information.



2024 WI Area Coordinators Laurie Malchow (Washington and Ozaukee Counties) and Sue Maleski (Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties) help process shoeboxes